

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors. No new matter whatsoever has been added.

The main claim has been replaced with a new main claim 10 that complies better with US practice and that defined the invention with greater particularity over the art.


More particularly, new main claim 10 clearly states that the contacting element is separate from the casing. This clearly distinguishes over the contacting element of US 4,960,388 of Frantz where the contacting element 90 is clearly part of the casing. Thus the claims are allowable under §102 in view of the Frantz because a specific feature of claim 10 is not seen in this reference, and no suggestion is present to make it a separate part, so a §103 rejection is similarly out of the question.

US 6,034,325 of Nattel does not add anything to the rejection based on Frantz because the Iris spring 60 serves a different function.

Thus the claims are allowable and the case can be passed to Issue.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Request for extension (three months)
Corrected version
Substitute Specification
Substitute Abstract